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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

)	
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. W.A.)	
DREW EDMONDSON, in his capacity as)	
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE)	
OF OKLAHOMA, et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	Case No. 05-CV-329-GKF-PJC
VS.)	
)	
TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

THE CARGILL DEFENDANTS' <u>UNOPPOSED</u> MOTION TO TAKE DEPOSITION OF W. MICHAEL HANEMANN BEYOND THE DEADLINE FOR DAMAGES EXPERT DEPOSITIONS AND INTEGRATED BRIEF

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), the Cargill Defendants move for leave to take the deposition of Plaintiffs' natural resources damages expert W. Michael Hanemann on May 5, 2009, four days after the May 1, 2009 deadline the Court set at the April 7, 2009 hearing, by which Defendants were to complete the depositions of any of Plaintiffs' damages experts. Plaintiffs do not oppose this motion. The Cargill Defendants request this leave to accommodate the schedules of Dr. Hanemann, counsel for the Cargill Defendants, and the Cargill Defendants' expert who will attend the deposition. This request is made after conferring with opposing counsel and making every effort to find a mutually feasible date on or before May 1 on which Dr. Hanemann's deposition could be taken.

On April 7, 2009, upon motion by the Cargill Defendants, the Court directed Plaintiffs to provide Defendants with an additional expert disclosure related to Plaintiffs' natural damages reports. (See Dkt. No. 1977: Tr. of Apr. 7, 2009 motions hearing at 20-50.) The Court ordered

Dr. Hanemann's deposition suspended pending receipt of this disclosure by the Cargill Defendants. (See id. at 46-50.) Plaintiffs provided this disclosure Friday evening, April 10, 2009. (Ex. 1: I. Moll Apr. 10, 2009 email and attachment.) The Cargill Defendants diligently analyzed this additional disclosure to determine which of Plaintiffs' natural resources damages experts needed to be deposed. Except for Dr. Hanemann, all of the other natural resource damages experts that the Cargill Defendants wish to depose have been scheduled prior to the May 1 cut-off. Given Plaintiffs' expert disclosures, the Cargill Defendants believe Dr. Hanemann to be a key expert witness on damages.

On Sunday, April 12, 2009, the Cargill Defendants' counsel corresponded with Plaintiffs' counsel to establish a deposition date for Dr. Hanemann on or before the May 1 deadline. (Ex. 2: C. Deihl Apr. 12-13, 2009 email chain.) Plaintiffs indicated that the only dates Dr. Hanemann is available between now and May 1 are Saturday, April 18, 2009 or Sunday, April 19, 2009. (Id.) The Cargill Defendants' counsel cannot take Dr. Hanemann's deposition on these days due to other scheduling conflicts. Moreover, the Cargill Defendants' damages experts are not available to attend a deposition on either of the days proposed by Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs have indicated the next available date for Dr. Hanemann is May 5, 2009. (Id.) Plaintiffs do not oppose this motion for leave to take Dr. Hanemann's deposition out of time on May 5, 2009. (Id.)

"A schedule may be modified only for good cause and with the judge's consent." Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4). Here, there are several factors which warrant a finding of good cause for the delay in taking the Hanemann deposition, including: (1) the Cargill Defendants' diligent efforts to schedule as many depositions as possible prior to the May 1 deadline, (2) the significance of Dr. Hanemann's testimony on damages should he be called to testify at trial, (3) the Court-ordered suspension of Dr. Hanemann's deposition pending the Cargill Defendants' receipt of

Plaintiffs' additional expert disclosure, (4) Dr. Hanemann's very limited availability between now and the May 1 deadline, (5) the unavailability of the Cargill Defendants' counsel and experts on the two weekend days Dr. Hanemann is available between now and the deadline, and (6) the relatively close proximity of the proposed deposition date to the May 1 deadline. In addition, permitting Dr. Hanemann's deposition to occur beyond the deadline as requested will not prejudice any party or cause any undue delay in the remainder of trial preparation, nor will this schedule affect any other deadlines in the scheduling order.

Thus, the Cargill Defendants respectfully request the Court enter an Order allowing them to take the deposition of W. Michael Hanemann on May 5, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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I certify that on the 14th day of April, 2009, I electronically transmitted the attached document to the Clerk of Court using the ECF System for filing and transmittal of a Notice of Electronic Filing to the following ECF registrants:

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I also hereby certify that I served the attached documents by United States Postal Service, proper postage paid, on the following who are not registered participants of the ECF System:

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